



The Langholm Initiative

Buccleuch Mill | Glenesk Road | Langholm | DG13 0ES

wildeskdale@langholminitiative.co.uk | 013873 80914

Company Limited by Guarantee SC197326 and a Scottish Registered Charity SC041085

## Black Grouse Lek - Itinerary

- Half Day (4hrs)
- Full Day (8hrs)

This experience can be done as part of either a full day (8hrs) or half day (4hrs) experience. Remember it will be a very early start time! \*Seasonal late March/April

A Black Grouse Lek is an incredible thing to **see** and **hear**. At Wild Eskdale we can guide you to the possibility of witnessing this brilliant natural behaviour without disturbing the grouse. This can be done as either part of the full or half day experience the main difference is the extremely early start time. We will **aim to be on location for 5am!**

For all experiences we will stay and watch the Lek until it is safe to move on **without disturbing the Grouse**.

Afterwards on the half day (4hr) experience we may search Langholm Moor for Hen Harriers, Short Eared Owls, Merlin, Kestrel or maybe even a Golden Eagle as well as many more species.

On the full day (8hr) experience we may also visit locations to search for Red Squirrel, Curlew, Golden Plover and many more.

### Pricing

\*Please see pricing for [Full Day](#) and [Half Day](#) Wildlife Experiences. Prices and conditions are the same for the Black Grouse Lek.

### Other information

Wild Eskdale don't use a minibus where you have to fight for the attention of the guide or for time to see what's top of everyone's list. We use a 4x4 which we definitely need as some of the locations with our exclusive permission to access by vehicle don't really have what could be called a road anymore. Each experience will have a maximum of four people in our fully insured vehicle. At maximum capacity this will require 3 people to sit in the back seat. If you would prefer to have a more **personal experience** why not book our **exclusive deal?**

Feel free to bring your own but Wild Eskdale will also provide binoculars and top of the range Swarovski spotting scopes to make the most of your experience.

**Insects:** Biting midges might be present. Please make sure to take any precautions you see fit to combat this. Ticks are also present on the moor. We suggest wearing thick socks pulled up with long trousers over the top. Please make sure to check yourself for ticks at the end of the day.

## **Dietary**

Please let us know of any dietary needs in advance of your experience as this impacts what is included in the packed lunch. We cannot be held responsible for any adverse effect of supplied food or drink that we have not previously received dietary information about.

## **Charity**

Unlike private Wildlife tour companies, Wild Eskdale is a Langholm Initiative charity project. This means that the fee you pay for an amazing Wildlife experience goes directly towards community projects, outdoor education and to any nature reserves we visit to aid with their running costs.

## **What will be provided by us:**

- Top of the range Swarovski spotting scope.
- Opticron binoculars.
- Wildlife identification books.
- Morning/Afternoon tea or coffee.
- Breakfast (full day only).
- 4x4 transport for the experience
- Collection from and drop off to an agreed location.
- Access to an experienced guide.
- Exclusive access to certain areas of Langholm Moor.

## **What you should bring:**

- Clothing for all weathers - some areas of the moor are quite exposed and can be cold/wet even in the summer.
- Wellington boots (not vital but might improve your experience).
- Camera.
- Any medication you require (please inform Wild Eskdale prior to the experience of any medical requirements).
- Bottle of Water
- Feel free to bring your own wildlife spotting equipment.
- A smile!

\*we cannot guarantee that you will see the birds leking but we will take you to known lek sites that provide the best opportunity in the area.